(b) and (c) Thr details of each and every demand received regarding new lines from different States of North Eastern Region are not maintained. However, demands received for construction of the new lines in the region in the recent past along with action taken on these are as under:-

1. Bhairabi-Sairang survey completed

2. Dimapur-Tizit

3. Agartala-Sabroom survey completed

4. Ledo-Nempong

5. Sivok-Rangpo survey taken up

6. Murkongselek-Pasighat survey completed

7. Naginimora-Amguri survey completed

Old bridges in Andhra Pradesh

4102. SHRI.RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of old bridges have undergone strengthening over the years;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years especially in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the present status thereof; and

(d) the criteria adopted therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Rehabilitation/rebuilding/strengthening of bridges is an ongoing process on Indian Railways. Railway undertakes rehabilitation/rebuilding/strengthening of bridges on the basis of their physical condition as ascertained during regular inspections carried out in the field. Based on such identification of bridges, allotment of funds is made annually to carry out their rebilitation/rebuilding/strengthening duly prioritizing the works as per requirement. In 2001-02, to clear the backlog of replacement of such identified bridges on Indian Railways, 2370 bridges were sanctioned, for rehabilitation/rebuilding/strengthening at a cost of Rs. 1530 crore under Special Railway Safety Fund (SRSF). Apart from SRSF, additional funds are also made available annually in Railway Budget

to undertake rehabilitation/rebuilding/strengthening of fresh accruals of bridge works mainly under Depreciation Reserve Fund (DRF).

The statistics of rehabilitation/rebuilding/strengthening of bridges is maintained Railway Zone-wise not State-wise. During the last three years, a total of 4124 no. of bridges have been rehabilitated/rebuilt/strengthened on all sixteen Zonal Railways. This includes 737 no. of bridges rehabilitated/ rebuilt/strengthened on four Zonal Railways *i.e.* East Coast Railway (ECoR), South Central Railway (SCR), Southern Railway (SR) and South Western Railway (SWR) which serve the State of Andhra Pradesh also.

During the current year i.e. 2007-08, a total of 1444 no. of bridges have been targeted for rehabilitation/rebuilding/strengthening on all sixteen Zonal Railways. Thus includes 276 no. of bridges falling on the four Zonal Railways which caters to the State of Andhra Pradesh also. The Zone-wise progress of Bridge works during last three years and targets for 2007-08 are given as under:

Railway	No. of bridges rehabilitated/rebuilt/strengthened during			
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08 (Target)
Central	129	90	62	65
Eastern	96	126	106	127
East Central	66	57	47	61
East Coast	55	30	41	40
Northern	404	405	144	158
North Central	35	35	20	51
North Eastern	40	20	18	15
Northeast Frontier	112	125	80	123
North Western	90	73	65	70
Southern	68	81	104	122
South Central	155	77	80	91
South Eastern	60	33	39	64.
South East Central	35	58	65	65
South Western	6	20	20	23
Western	140	126	128	240
West Central	88	75	95	129
TOTAL:	1579	1431	1114	1444